

Our Young Folks.

DEEDS OF KINDNESS.

Suppose the little cowlip should hang its golden cup, And say, "I'm such a tiny flower, I'd better not grow up."

BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

"My brother is as polite to me as any one else, when I go out with him," said a girl proudly to a companion.

SILENT INFLUENCE.

A young professor of religion, in accepting an invitation for an evening's entertainment, found himself most unexpectedly in a company where all were engaged in card-playing.

Years passed. The circumstance had nearly left her memory. One day a friend inquired, "Do you remember being present at an evening party when all but yourself were engaged in card-playing?"

We are either scattering abroad or gathering in the great harvest-field of souls. A word, a look, an apparently unimportant act, may affect the eternal interests of a young inquirer who is looking to us for example.

DOTTIE'S TEMPERANCE SERMON.

FOR THE YOUNGEST READERS.

Well, well! what did ail Dottie? She had positively refused to kiss her father for a whole week. He went to work in the morning, long before her blue eyes were open, and did not come home till dark.

At last he grew almost angry, saying sternly, "I won't have a little girl that does not love me."

Dottie went to her mother with a greved look, and tears stealing into her eyes.

"I do love my papa, ever so much—five bushels," she said.

"Then why did you treat him so?" asked her mother; "he does not see you all day, and when he comes home so tired you won't kiss him. Why is it?"

"Because, because—" and here Dottie stopped.

at the house of a friend, who always took a glass of something strong at night, and insisted that Dottie's father should drink with him; and that was how it happened.

DOES GOD ANSWER PRAYER.

There are two striking cases—one in the Old Testament and one in the New—of men, beloved of God, praying perseveringly and with the utmost intensity and fervor for something which was denied them.

MANNERS IN TRAVELLING.

If there is a place in the world where good manners are needed and worth their weight in gold, it is in travel; but if there is any place where bad manners prevail, and the bad breeding, boorishness, selfishness and vulgarity of people display themselves most frequently and conspicuously, it is in the car, the coach, and the steamboat.

We have been frequently pained the present season at the coarse and tyrannical bearing of some men while travelling. They insist on controlling the windows, the doors, the ventilators and furniture, precisely as though the entire car or boat were their private property.

Sometimes the bad manners of women on the road are positively discreditable to the sex. They sometimes monopolize seats that do not belong to them, by spreading out their dresses or piling up their baggage, making others stand or sit in discomfort.

The matter is of much more importance than most people seem to imagine. Good manners are nowhere so much needed and so conducive to the general comfort as in travel.

It sometimes pleases God to disqualify ministers for their work, before He gives them to their reward. Where He gives them wisdom to perceive this, and grace to acquiesce in the dispensation, and a sense of an honorable life, where the desire to be publicly useful survives the power, is a loud amen to all former labors.

INEXPENSIVE HAPPINESS.

The most perfect home I ever saw was in a little house into the sweet incense of whose fires went no costly things. A thousand dollars saved for a year's living at father, mother, and three children.

BLUSHING.

Darwin, in his new work, on "The Expression of the Emotion in Man and Animals," has an interesting chapter on blushing. This act, he tells us, is the most peculiar and the most human of all expressions.

TIRESOME PEOPLE.

There are certain people with whom I used to think myself wonderfully congenial; we liked the same books, pictures, and what not; had set ourselves to the accomplishment of much the same objects in life; never quarrelled about the slightest thing.

EVERYBODY'S ROOM.

Not long ago, we stopped for an hour at the parsonage of a worthy brother, who was kind enough to insist on displaying to us its various attractions. He had a right to be proud of them, for the design of the parsonage, and the labor of begging the money to build it for his congregation, and the work of superintending it, had fallen on the pastor's shoulders, as is mostly the case.

We must submit to death, but the miracle is that whosoever keeps to God's Word shall not feel death, but pass hence as one falling asleep.

WISE COUNSELS.

The following quotations are worthy of remembrance and much reflection:—"To-day, when the question of labor and wages, of political and social reform, occupies in the highest degree the public mind, it may well be believed that the study of a legislation of which the theory of rest, so to speak, forms the basis, must be useful.

"We are opposed to anything which tends to increase the already too great tendency to break down the observance of the Sabbath. Irrespective of any religious question, which we do not now here discuss, the difficulty is that its secularization will tend to diminish its prestige as a season of rest from physical labor; and this would be a consummation to be deprecated for the reason that in this over-active and, as we sometimes think, fatally busy country, a very little opportunity will see a considerable portion of producers to work on Sunday, thus complicating the labor question, which is complicated enough already."

"Operatives are perfectly right in thinking that if all worked on Sunday, seven days' work would have to be given for six days' wages."

"The law which upholds the institution of the Sabbath—being a law of Christianity—does more to educate and maintain a sound moral sense in a Christian people than all the museums and picture-galleries which could be thrown open to them."

The proprietors of the North Western Railway Company (England) passed the following resolution in February, 1849, and re-affirmed it in a circular dated Secretary's office, Euston Station, 4th January, 1872.

"That the business shall be suspended on Sundays, except for such restricted conveyance of passengers as seems called for on the ground of public necessity; and that the directors to whom is here conferred the duty of devising the extent of such restrictions, shall take as their guide, in discharging their duty, the consideration of the public good, and not the private interests of the company."

MAIDS AND MISTRESSES.

It should be plain enough that examples are as much to servants as to children; since in manners and social training servants are as children. The peasant-girl reared in an Irish cabin or German cottage can hardly be expected to be a model of politeness or of personal neatness.

A DARWINIAN SUGGESTION.

Max Adeler, in the "Boston Courier," remarks:—"We are engaged now in developing a scheme for growing kid gloves upon the original animal. Our old friend, Darwin, teaches us that you can do almost anything with breeds by judicious 'selection'; and we are convinced that, with a little care, it will be possible to produce a beast whose skin, when stripped off, will make a seamless kid glove.

Random Readings.

A man may have a great deal of manner and no manners. Every man can love his friend; but only a godly man can love his enemy.

Wisdom and truth, of the sky are immortal; but cunning and deception, the factors of the earth, after glittering for a moment, must pass away.

The end of learning is to know God, and out of that knowledge to know Him and to imitate Him, as we may the nearest by possessing our souls of true virtue.

Let us keep to Christ, and cling to Him and hang on Him, so that no power can sever us. Then soon we shall see Him with joy, at that day.

Every religion is a getting religion. You may find a lawyer in the temple that sets little for the present; but he is fitting himself to be in time one of those great ones who do get.

In small things, says Spurgeon, lie the crucibles and the touchstones. Any hypocrite will come to the Sabbath worship; but it is not every hypocrite that will attend prayer meetings, or read the Bible in secret, or speak privately of the things of God to the saints.

Praying unto God without communion is like talking to a man who gives neither an answer, nor a sign, nor yet a look. You would soon be weary of such converse, and avoid such company; and no people find a heart to pray who feel no fellowship with God.

Poetry has been to me its "own exceeding great reward"; it has multiplied and refined my enjoyments; it has soothed my afflictions; it has endeared solitude; it has given me the habit of wishing to discover the good and the beautiful in all that meets and surrounds me.

A believer has not so much to boast of as a common beggar. He that gives to a beggar, gives him a bare alms only; whereas, God gives to his people both Christ's righteousness to justify him, and also the hand of faith by which they receive it.

Nothing is more cheerful and pleasing, to eyes that are strong and sound, than light; on the other hand, nothing more painful and disagreeable, to eyes that are weak and discompeered. As different is the effect of God's word, on them that believe, and on them that believe not.

Courage is always greatest when blended with meekness; intellectual ability is most admirable when it sparkles in the setting of a modest self-distrust and never does the human soul appear so strong as when it foregoes revenge and dares to forgive an injury.

It is a great work to draw a large ship from her moorings, but when she is in the water, how easily she rolls! What happiness, when by perseverance, you have triumphed over nature, to find yourself in the abundant waters of grace! I pray God to put his own hand to the work.

The meanness of the earthen vessel, which conveys to others the Gospel Treasure, takes nothing from the value of the treasure. A dying hand may sign a deed of gift of incalculable value. A shepherd's boy may point out the way to a philosopher. A beggar may be the bearer of an invaluable present.

In sleep all weariness passes away, and we rise again in the morning joyful, fresh, and strong. So at the last day we shall arise from our graves as if we had only slept a night, be fresh and strong, bathe our eyes (as in morning dew) and all weakness, corruption, and dishonor shall vanish from us forever.

"O, that I had wings," saith heavenly-hearted David, "that I might fly away from this world's vanities, and possess heaven's happiness!" "O, that I were dissolved," saith blessed Paul, "that I might be with Christ!" "O, that I were in this place of such wished happiness, where I might rest from those worldly labors, and earthly miseries, and transitory vanities—JOHN BRADFORD.

When a man drinks hard, the blood boils over, and the passions rise and grow tumultuous. In such a dangerous juncture the guards should be doubled, and twice as much sense summoned in as would serve for an ordinary occasion. Now, to part with one's reason when we have need of it as much more, if we could get it, is like breaking the compass, and throwing the pilot overboard in a storm.

From the first step which He took in the career of suffering and condemnation even to the last, at every stage of the long road, in every period of a man's sad life, He took upon himself the condemnation which had come upon a guilty race. He performed an act of obedience. He accepted the will of his Father. He fulfilled it. He displayed the perfection of love, and His person reconciled God and man.

There is a great want in Christians who have not suffered. Some flowers must be broken or bruised before they give out their fragrance. All the wounds of Christ are out sweetness; all the sorrows of Christ are the sweet. Commend me to a broken brother—a broken reed—on the sea of Man. To me there is some fragrance, and sweet in all suffering.

Do not melancholy, and do not yourself in heaven. If you are to be kept in the keeping of a father, you must belong to it, orchards, gardens, etc., and but you are them; what a reward! You that after twenty years to be given to the Court, and to take your place as a seller, if you should be of your castle, and refuse to eat of these things, and set them down and whine, and wish you were a privy councillor, do you think that God would be pleased with you?—Shelden